of Government accommodation and to examine the need for construction of more houses.

(b) Two respresentatives of the employees namely S/Shri G.L. Dhar and K.K. N. Kutty have been associated with the Committee constituted to examine the need for building more accommodation for Central Govt. employees in Delhi.

(c) Demand and shortages of Govt. accommodation have been computed on the basis of applications invited on restricted basis for the allotment year 1994-95.

(d) The Committee constituted to frame rules for out of turn allotment has since submitted its report. The rules framed in this regard will be notified and laid on the Table of both the Houses of the Parliament.

(e) The Supreme Court has directed that the employees who were denied inturn allotment of Govt. accommodation should be suitably compensated and for the purpose, the additional licence fee, collected from the out of turn allottees, shall be used. To formulate a scheme in this regard, in terms of Supreme Court order, a Committee has been constituted to examine all the related issues. The recommendations of the Committee are awaited.

Employment to Labourers

838. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is mandatory to engage/employ the labourers on works undertaken under JRY and IRDP;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for awarding contracts for such works by the Government;

(d) whether there is any proposal to enquire into such cases and to make public the report thereof; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is a wage employment programme under which rural poor are provided wage employment in various works which result in creation of durable community assets. At least 60% of the resources have to be spent on wage component. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is a self employment programme where assisted poor families are enabled to take up self employment activities by providing them with productive assets and inputs in primary secondary or tertiary sector.

(c) to (e) There is no provision for awarding work to contractors under the scheme viz. JRY and IRDP. However, when such cases are brought to the notice of Central Government, the same are referred to the concerned State Government(s) for taking necessary action against the delignquents.

Transmission and Distribution of Power

839. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has hailed the Government's decision to privatise transmission of power;

(b) if so, the points raised by FICCI in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) has hailed the Government decision to privatise the transmission of power by amending of Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, through Electricity Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997.

(b) FICCI has raised the following points in this regard:

(i) T&D network during the past years have not kept pace with the augmentation in the capacity addition in power generation.

(ii) The recognition of transmission as a distinct activity, and the opening of the transmission to private operators, is expected to reduce the T&D losses

(c) It is a fact that investment in transmission network during the past years have not kept pace with the investments in the power generation. It was in recognition of this fact that the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 was promulgated which recognises transmission as a distinct activity and to provide for facilitating investment by private sector in this vital area. The additional investment in the Transmission Sector will also help in reducing Transmission losses.

[Translation]

Demolition

840. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that D.D.A. has demolished a number of houses without notice in trans-Yamuna area which were there for the last 20 years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government propose to provide houses or compensation to affected persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The D.D.A. has reported